

**Amendments to the claims:**

Please amend claim 4 as indicated below. The following listing of claims replaces all earlier versions of the claims in the application:

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Claims 1-3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the risk of onset of preventing congestive heart failure in a patient not previously having congestive heart failure and who has an essentially maintained heart function, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor.

Claim 5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 4, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is alacepril, alatriopril, altiopril calcium, ancovenin, benazepril, benazepril hydrochloride, benazeprilat, benzoylcaptopril, captopril, captopril-cysteine, captopril-glutathione, ceranapril, ceranopril, ceronapril, cilazapril, cilazaprilat, delapril, delapril-diacid, enalapril, enalaprilat, enapril, epicaptopril, foroxymithine, fosfenopril, fosenopril, fosenopril sodium, fosinopril, fosinopril sodium, fosinoprilat, fosinoprilic acid, glycopril, hemorphin-4, idrapril, imidapril, indolapril, indolaprilat, libenzapril, lisinopril, lyciumin A, lyciumin B, mixanpril, moexipril, moexiprilat, moveltipril, muracein A, muracein B, muracein C, pentopril, perindopril, perindoprilat, pivalopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinapril hydrochloride, quinaprilat, ramipril, ramiprilat, spirapril, spirapril hydrochloride, spiraprilat, spiropril, spiropril hydrochloride, temocapril, temocapril hydrochloride, teprotide, trandolapril, trandolaprilat, utibapril, zabicipril, zabiciprilat, zofenopril, or zofenoprilat.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril, ramiprilat, lisinopril, enalapril, or enalaprilat.

Claims 8-17 (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the patient exhibits normal or low blood pressure.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.

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